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WARRIORS

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<http://dmva.alaska.gov>

Decontaminate.

Top: Members of the 103rd Civil Support Team (Weapons of Mass Destruction), decontaminate their equipment after responding to a simulated chemical spill as part of the training scenario of exercise Vigilant Guard. Photo: Sergeant First Class Jon Soucy, U.S. Army



Ready to Serve.

Bottom: Governor Sean Parnell re-enlists Alaska Army National Guard Sergeant First Class Stephen Moulfair in front of a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter following the Alaska Veterans Memorial ceremony at Byers Lake May 30. Photo: Major Guy Hayes, DMVA Public Affairs



Jump. Sergeant James Bruce, 1-297th Cavalry, Alaska Army National Guard, looks to his battle buddy with excitement while he waits to jump out of a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter at the Malamute Drop Zone in May. Photo: Private First Class Karina Paraoan, DMVA Public Affairs

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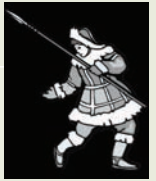
veterans and families are invited and encouraged. Please send articles and photos with name, phone number, e-mail, complete mailing address and comments to:

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For the People

Governor Sean Parnell
Commander in Chief



Ready to Serve

The Department of Military & Veterans Affairs consists of men and women who put aside personal ambition and offer aid to friends and neighbors in need. They epitomize the phrase “Ready to Serve”.

During the last few months, members of DMVA have provided critical assessments regarding food and transportation issues to Little Diomed. Also, DMVA assisted Marines in building the new community of Metarvik (Newtok) by providing transportation and food services, and visited the community of Eagle – marking one year since the devastating floods of 2009.

Motorists and citizens stranded by heavy rains that washed out parts of the Taylor Highway are being served by our search and rescue capabilities. As always, our top priority remains ensuring our citizens are safe. Meanwhile, we must restore public infrastructure to further

commerce and create more opportunities for Alaskans.

Sergeant First Class Stephen Moulflair and his family are a great example of the kind of hard-working Alaskan family we want to see succeed. I had the privilege to preside over his reenlistment ceremony at Byers Lake the day before Memorial Day. There, I was again inspired by the patriotism, honor, and bravery that make Alaska and our nation great.

I am working to ensure we always have a strong military presence in Alaska through the Alaska Military Force Advocacy and Structure Team. Major General Katkus spearheads this effort by leading a team of retired general officers and community leaders to leverage every opportunity to retain and build on the State’s current military force capabilities. I asked the team to propose strategies for acquiring future

missions and infrastructure that will benefit the United States’ national security, and provide Alaska’s residents with more economic opportunities.

The Office of Veterans Affairs continues to honor those who have served by advocating for all Alaskan veterans. Their promotion of the Yellow Ribbon Program in nearly every village in our state has connected our veterans to the benefits they have earned and deserve.

As we work to register more veterans with the federal Department of Veterans Affairs, we will be able to increase the health care services for veterans in Alaska and create more jobs to serve the needs of our community members.

As Governor, I am proud to be your Commander-in-Chief and thank you for always being “Ready to Serve.” ■



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The Adjutant General



Major General Thomas H. Katkus
Adjutant General, Alaska National Guard
& Commissioner, Alaska Department of Military & Veterans Affairs

Building Relationships, Serving Alaska

It can be tough living in the "Last Frontier." As Alaskans, we are continually exposed to a multitude of diverse natural disasters. We encounter severe storms, floods, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions and wild fires on a regular basis. Continual training and preparation for these events helps the Department of Military & Veterans Affairs stand always ready and ever reliable to respond when catastrophe strikes.

This past April, we participated in a combined training event simulating a large scale earthquake that involved our own Alaska Shield exercise, the National Guard's Vigilant Guard exercise, and Joint Task Force Alaska's Arctic Edge exercise. This brought together more than 4,000 participants from 51 organizations, including National Guard units from Alaska, Idaho, Washington, Hawaii, Oregon, Michigan and North Carolina.

It was a phenomenal event that challenged our ability to respond effectively and efficiently in a timely manner with the right resources. Most importantly, it was a catalyst for building lasting relationships with our local communities and the great men and women who are Alaska's first responders.

Exemplifying critical relationship development is the new-found interaction



Laugh. Major General Thomas H. Katkus, adjutant general of the Alaska National Guard, center left; Senator Lisa Murkowski and Governor Sean Parnell share a laugh at the Alaska Veterans Memorial ceremony at Byers Lake in May.

Photo: Major Guy Hayes, DMVA Public Affairs

between the Alaska National Guard and the U.S. Coast Guard. This outstanding affiliation was instrumental in the rescue of a stranded hiker on Meade Glacier this spring. Members of the Alaska Army National Guard and the U.S. Coast Guard partnered

with local rescue groups and the Alaska State Troopers in Juneau to save a young man who had been without food for four days, in an area that had received more than 12 feet of snow in the previous two weeks. Their ability to function together seamlessly was a result of the relationships they built prior to the event. Getting to know first responders and fostering those relationships is key to success during an emergency.

As members of the Department of Military & Veterans Affairs, we continue to engage all our Alaskan communities. We emphatically build critical relationships so we are prepared to respond and to work together to save lives and provide essential resources during local or statewide disasters.

It is an immense privilege to serve in uniform, whether it is the uniform of our nation's great military or the many diverse uniforms of our heroic and expertly proficient first responders. Alaskan citizens can feel secure that in their time of need, the hand that reaches to pull them to safety is extended from a fully trained, competent, and prepared emergency response professional. ■

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Dispatches from the Front...

Alaska National Guardsmen Arrive in Vietnam for Pacific Angel

Story and photos by Captain Timothy Lundberg, 36th Wing Public Affairs

HO CHI MINH CITY, Vietnam ... Thirty-nine U.S. military personnel from bases throughout the Pacific and continental United States traveled to Vietnam in May to participate in Pacific Angel 10-2.

The C-130 Hercules from the 144th Airlift Squadron at Kulis Air National Guard Base, Alaska, flew in the doctors, dentists, optometrists, medical technicians and engineers to carry out a humanitarian mission in villages near Can Tho, Vietnam.

Pacific Angel 10-2 is a U.S. Pacific Command-directed, U.S. Pacific Air Forces-executed mission designed to provide civic assistance and to help build civic capacity in countries throughout the Pacific. The first Pacific Angel was held in Cambodia in May 2009.

"Pacific Angel missions are designed to ensure U.S. military forces work closely with the host nation military and appropriate nongovernmental aid organizations to ensure the best possible effect during our time in country," said Lieutenant Colonel Blair English, Pacific Angel 10-2 commander, deployed from the 13th Air Force at Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii. "It's also important to note that this is a total-force and joint mission for the U.S. military forces – with U.S. Air Force active duty, Air National Guard, U.S. Air Force reserve forces and U.S. Navy Seabee Engineers.

"This mission has been in planning for months, and we're all very excited to work with our Vietnamese military brethren and personnel from the nongovernmental organizations to provide civic medical assistance and capability improvement."

Pacific Angel missions also allow PACAF to execute USPACOM's mission of increasing cooperation, security and stability throughout the Pacific. ■



Pacific Angel 10-2. A C-130 Hercules from the 144th Airlift Squadron at Kulis Air National Guard Base, Alaska, arrives at Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, with 39 military personnel from bases around the Pacific and continental United States as part of Operation Pacific Angel 10-2. Pacific Angel is a humanitarian and civic assistance program conducted in the Pacific area of responsibility to support U.S. Pacific Command's capacity-building efforts. This was the second time the operation has been held in Southeast Asia. Pacific Angel 10-2 was also carried on in villages around the city of Can Tho.

Below: Cargo is off-loaded shortly after arrival at Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. Thirty-nine military personnel from bases around the Pacific and continental United States participated in Operation Pacific Angel 10-2 in the Can Tho area in May. This was the second time the operation has been held in Southeast Asia.



Where in the World

Alaska Guardsman Assists Mongolians with Training in Afghanistan

By Major Mark Binggeli, Mongolian Expeditionary Task Force Tactical Advisor, Alaska Army National Guard

CAMP SCENIC, Afghanistan ... Traveling south from the Afghan capital city of Kabul in May, Mongolian Expeditionary Task Force leaders conducted an initial reconnaissance with elements of the British Army cadre and Alaska National Guard at Camp Scenic, future site of the Afghanistan National Army's Infantry Branch School.

The task force is establishing and staffing this new school with the mission to train future Afghan National Army infantry Soldiers. The purpose of this visit was to get oriented with the facilities, security and infrastructure of the camp. Lodging, dining facilities, offices, classrooms and training areas are all being improved and tailored to meet the needs of the school.

The Afghan Army Military Police are currently using this site as a training center, but beginning in July, about 400 Afghan National Army trainees will arrive and begin the first infantry class at Camp Scenic. By winter, the school will phase in additional classes until it reaches capacity of three courses operating simultaneously with up to 1,400 trainees in camp.

While touring the camp, we discovered this area has military history going back centuries. Kabul itself is over 3,000 years old, with numerous empires fighting over the city for its strategic location along the south and central Asian trade routes. In Darulaman, at the base of the mountains, stand the king and queen's palaces.



Gunnery Training in Idaho. First Sergeant Will Schwenke of Nikiski briefs Specialist Justin Sekerak of Kodiak and Specialist Craig Kanrud of Kenai as they prepare to move to the ready line for crew qualification during scout crew gunnery training at the Orchard Training Area, 20 miles outside of Boise, Idaho. Sergeant First Class Ken Felchle of Soldotna and Private Nathan Williams of Eagle River stand on top of their gun truck awaiting their turn to head out for the next phase of gunnery qualification. Specialist Anthony Kline of Kenai is at lower left. Photo: Major Candis Olmstead, Idaho National Guard Public Affairs



Mongolian Expeditionary Task Force Members. From left, Major Mark Binggeli, Mongolian Expeditionary Task Force tactical advisor, Alaska Army National Guard; United Kingdom Lieutenant Colonel Jeremy Morgan, Infantry Branch School senior mentor, and Lieutenant Colonel Dondogdorj JavkhlanbayarJavkha, senior national representative and Mongolian Expeditionary Task Force contingent commander at the small arms ranges, Camp Scenic, Darulaman, Afghanistan.

Photo: Courtesy of the Mongolian Expeditionary Task Force



Practice Fire. Sergeant First Class Ken Felchle of Soldotna, a gunner in 1-297th Cavalry Squadron, removes expended brass from an M2 .50-caliber machine gun mounted on an armored Humvee. Felchle and two other soldiers in the Cavalry Scout crew had just finished a practice fire during field exercises in the Orchard Training Area, 20 miles outside of Boise, Idaho. In less than 20 minutes, they shoot at fixed and moving targets – about 200 rounds per iteration – load up with new ammo, and give it another go. The armored Humvee is the Cavalry Scouts' primary reconnaissance platform; it can also be equipped with a 40 mm grenade launcher.

Photo: Major Candis Olmstead, Idaho National Guard Public Affairs



United States ambassador Adolph Dubs who served in Kabul, was kidnapped and subsequently killed during a failed rescue attempt in 1979. This area continues to be key terrain and will now be the starting point to train and develop the Afghan National Army of the future.

At Camp Scenic, Afghan National Army infantrymen will learn to conduct dismounted patrolling techniques in training lanes leading up to small-arms and mortar-range training to hone individual and squad-level skills.

The Mongolian Expeditionary Task Force will provide mentors to the Afghan

In recent times, Soviet forces stormed the King's Palace in December 1979. President Hafizullah Amin was executed, along with his family and his personal bodyguards. The majestic palaces still stand, but are now in ruins, marking the era of Russian and subsequently Taliban occupation.

Camp Scenic is nestled between the palace ruins and Camp Dubs, named after



Warrior of the Week. Technical Sergeant Tyler Sutton, 376th Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron, cargo yard noncommissioned-officer-in-charge, palletizes equipment in preparation for transport downrange. Sutton was deployed from the 176th Logistics Readiness Squadron, Kulis Air National Guard Base, to Manas, Kyrgyzstan. Sutton was selected as "Warrior of the Week" in recognition of his outstanding performance, good conduct and work ethic in support of the mission.

Photo: Senior Airman Nichelle Anderson, U.S. Air Force



Alaska Air National Guardsman Volunteers Time to Help Vietnamese

By Major Guy Hayes
DMVA Public Affairs

CAMP DENALI, Alaska ...

An Alaska Air National Guardsman traveled to Vietnam this spring with a group of 83 medical professionals from around the world to provide training and clinical support.

Major Linda Dunegan, medical administrative officer, 176th Wing, Alaska Air National Guard, traveled to Bach Mai Hospital in Hanoi in late March and to the Wue Medical College and Pharmacy in Wue in early April to work with international physicians in helping the people of Vietnam.

Dunegan, a licensed massage therapist and skin care practitioner, volunteered on her own time to work with other physicians to train Vietnamese medical students and staff in global medicine.

"I went to Vietnam because I wanted to train the Vietnamese medical staff and work with patients," said Dunegan. "I really want to help these people because I have a lot of compassion for them, and this was a good opportunity for me to use my skills to help those in need."

The training Dunegan and others provided consisted of lectures each morning followed by clinicals in the afternoon. Each day they had the chance to work

with patients and to train medical staff.

Between training events in Hanoi and Wue, Dunegan traveled across the country visiting historical sites and going to various clinics, if open, to lend a hand.

"My goal is to move there someday to share my knowledge and help everyone in need," said Dunegan. "Think about all the lives you can save by teaching them skills. I want to help make a difference, and so I'll do whatever it takes to help others."

Dunegan plans to visit Vietnam again soon and has an invitation to return this November to teach nursing staff in stretching techniques. ■

Helping Hands.

Major Linda Dunegan, medical administrative officer, 176th Wing, Alaska Air National Guard, works with a patient during her visit to Bach Mai Hospital in Hanoi in late March. She also traveled to the Medical College and Pharmacy in Wue in early April to work with international physicians in helping the people of Vietnam.

Photo: Courtesy of Linda Dunegan



National Army on Russian weapons. The task force's unique experience with Russian heavy machine guns and mortars fills a niche that United States and United Kingdom Soldiers do not possess. This training will be in addition to the task force providing a mobile training team at the Kabul Military Training Center to teach Afghan Soldiers the use of Russian artillery pieces.

Building on the past and current success of the Field Artillery Mobile Training Team, the Mongolian Expeditionary Task Force is optimistic that their infantry mentors will make a lasting impression on the combat

arms capabilities of the Afghan National Army at Camp Scenic.

Maj. Mark Binggeli of Wasilla, Alaska, is an Alaska Army National Guardsman working as a tactical advisor to the Mongolian Expeditionary Task Force in Afghanistan while the Mongolians provide fixed site security on Camp Eggers in Kabul. He serves as liaison for base security operations, and as a mentor provides insight into the U.S. command structure, logistics, and staff operations. He is in the middle of a six-month deployment to Afghanistan. ■



Army Guard Rescue. An Alaska Army National Guard UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter sits on Meade Glacier in March while Juneau and Douglas mountain rescue teams aid a stranded hiker. Army Guard and Coast Guard crews were finally able to reach the hiker's location after four unsuccessful Coast Guard attempts due to dense fog and marginal weather conditions. Alaska State Troopers estimated the area the hiker was stranded in had received 12 feet of snow in the 18 days leading up to his rescue.

Photo: Courtesy of the Coast Guard, Air Station Sitka

ALASKA ARMY NATIONAL GUARDSMEN

Partner with COAST GUARD to Save Hiker

By Major Guy Hayes, DMVA Public Affairs

CAMP DENALI, Alaska ... The Alaska Army National Guard and the U.S. Coast Guard teamed up in March to help rescue a 28-year-old hiker stranded without food for days on Meade Glacier near Haines, Alaska.

The 11th Rescue Coordination Center requested support from the Army National Guard, on behalf of the Coast Guard, after the Coast Guard was unsuccessful in its attempts to rescue the hiker the previous three days.

The Alaska Army National Guard Army Aviation Operations Facility in Juneau was tasked with the mission, and crews departed on a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter carrying Juneau and Douglas mountain rescue crews.

"Local rescue groups, Alaska State Troopers, Coast Guard and Alaska Army National Guard aircrew members were working together since early March, but poor weather conditions in the search area kept us from joining the rescue attempts earlier," said Chief Warrant Officer Two Nate Maplesden, UH-60 Black Hawk pilot with the Alaska Army National Guard. "A plan for the Coast Guard to take three mountain rescue hikers to the search area via the Lace River and for the Army National Guard to access the glacier from Katzeihin River was made, and that's what we first attempted."

Both the Alaska Army National Guard Black Hawk and Coast Guard MH-60

Jayhawk helicopter launched and proceeded as briefed. The Coast Guard was unable to access the glacier and had to abort eight miles from the search area. Meanwhile, the Army National Guard helicopter or "Icy 94" was working its way in along the Katzeihin River in poor weather conditions.

"A snow shower was restricting our visibility down to half a mile; however, we could see the tops of mountains at 1,000 to 2,000 feet," Maplesden said. "The sun was beaming through the cloud layer so we were optimistic, but once we reached the toe of the glacier, conditions had not improved enough to continue."

The Army Guard crew agreed it was worth setting the helicopter down for a few minutes to wait for a shift in weather.

Shortly thereafter, the Black Hawk took off for one more look at the glacier, and crews were surprised to see that visibility and ceilings were good.

"We made it to where the glacier was approximately 4,000 feet," Maplesden said. "We were only 1.5 miles from the hiker's location but could not continue, again due to visibility conditions in the search area."

With the weather not improving, "Icy

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Alaska Army National Guard UH-60 and rescue teams
http://cgvi.uscg.mil/media/main.php?g2_itemId=803898

Alaska Army National Guard Chief Warrant Officer Nate Maplesden interview:
http://cgvi.uscg.mil/media/main.php?g2_itemId=803901

94" had to return to Juneau, as weather conditions appeared to be worsening and fuel was running low.

That afternoon, Coast Guard and National Guard helicopters took off again with the intent of dropping ground teams as close to the search area as possible to search on foot.

"The Coast Guard was first in the area and reported that conditions were improved, with cloud layers at 6,500 feet," Maplesden said.

Both helicopter crews maintained constant communication and worked together to find the hiker's location.

"A moment after we had discussed our search plan, the Coast Guard received a message from the hiker via a radio that had been dropped to him by the pilot that was originally chartered to pick him up days before," Maplesden said.

The Coast Guard helicopter crew quickly spotted the hiker in the middle of the glacier waving outside his tent.

The Coast Guard crew dropped orange markers at his position, marking the area for the Army National Guard Black Hawk helicopter to land at the 5,100-foot level of the glacier.

"After laying orange markers, Chief Warrant Officer Steve Lewis, the pilot on the controls, touched down approximately 30 meters from the hiker's position," Maplesden said. "Snow skis on the Black Hawk provided a large surface area, and we were able to keep from sinking into the deep, fresh snow."

Juneau and Douglas mountain rescue personnel safely transferred the hiker into the Black Hawk. The hiker was transported to Haines in stable condition where Alaska State Troopers were waiting to take him to the local clinic. He was tired, weak and had not eaten in four days.

"The teamwork between the Coast Guard and Army National Guard crews was seamless. There was constant communication both on the ground and in the air," Maplesden said. "Planning between the commanding pilots was professional, and this rescue highlighted the ability of both organizations to function together in a highly effective manner."

The Alaska Army National Guard Juneau Army Aviation Operating Facility has served as a staging and planning hub for search and rescue events for more than a decade.

Alaska State Troopers estimated that the area the hiker was stranded in had received 12 feet of snow in the 18 days leading up to the hiker's rescue.

The Alaska Army National Guard was awarded one save for this mission. ■

Alaska Military Leaders Excited About Future Training Exercises

By Rick Breitenfeldt, National Guard Bureau Public Affairs

CAMP DENALI, Alaska ... Citizen Soldiers and Airmen, along with their active duty counterparts, arrived in Alaska in April to participate in a joint exercise combining the state of Alaska's Alaska Shield exercise, the National Guard's Vigilant Guard exercise and the Joint Task Force Alaska's Arctic Edge exercise.

The large-scale joint exercise simulated a response to a large earthquake and included more than 4,000 participants from 51 organizations and Guard units from seven states – Alaska, Washington, Idaho, Hawaii, Oregon, Michigan and North Carolina.

Participants converged on Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson and several venues around Anchorage, as well as locations near Kenai and Valdez, but Guard leaders hope future large-scale joint military exercises will be able to use one of Alaska's premier training sites – the Joint Pacific Alaskan Range Complex.

The JPARC, located mainly in central Alaska, with an additional huge maritime portion extending over the Gulf of Alaska, consists of military training airspace, maritime air and surface training space and land area live-fire training ranges.

This vast stretch of land encompasses rivers, mountains and forests stretching 67,000 square miles across the sparsely-populated areas of the Alaska interior and stretches another 44,000 square miles into the Gulf of Alaska.

The Alaska National Guard, in partnership with state of Alaska and the Alaska Railroad, is hopeful that a one-mile-long bridge over the Tanana River will make this training dream a reality, said Major General Thomas H. Katkus, adjutant general of the Alaska National Guard and commissioner of the Alaska Department of Military & Veterans Affairs.

"We want to be able to synchronize our training efforts and bring multiple states together," Katkus said. "JPARC would open up Alaska to the rest of the world."

According to Katkus, the JPARC would combine cold weather training, excellent mountainous terrain and the benefit of long periods of daylight – conditions similar to those found in Afghanistan.

"The JPARC brings the unique aspects of Alaska – large, all-domain training space, robust base infrastructure, and a culturally friendly environment for military training – into the joint military training resource mix for all of the Department of Defense," said Steven Hatter, Alaskan Command's joint training and ranges administrator.

"Alaska has in place the infrastructure to support an elaborate exercise such as Vigilant Guard with air, land, maritime space and cyberspace domains leveraged with very little concern of encroachment or interference," Hatter said. "The JPARC mission is to provide a highly realistic and effective environment for combat aircrew, ground crew and command staff, who can focus on joint warfighting skills."

"The JPARC includes, among many other qualities, an \$80 million investment that affords our military an urban training scenario with austere landing conditions allowing strategic airlift to go in, land, offload troops, accomplish pararescue drops and provide close air support [to ground troops]," said Lieutenant General Dana T. Atkins, commander of Alaskan Command and 11th Air Force.

"This year's Vigilant Guard exercise showed that Alaska stands ready to bring to bear our resources and efforts in a synchronized manner to protect our citizens," Katkus said. "We established a standard of how we do it here in Alaska and presented an example that can be followed by the rest of the nation." ■



The Joint Pacific Alaskan Range Complex encompasses rivers, mountains and forests stretching 67,000 square miles across the sparsely populated areas of the Alaska interior and stretches another 44,000 square miles into the Gulf of Alaska.

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Alaska National Guard Environmental Restoration Program Best in Nation

Soil Removal. Contaminated soil is removed and placed in “super-sacks” in Ambler, Alaska. The sacks were then loaded into 20-cubic-yard containers and barged to Seattle, where they were loaded back on a truck and shipped to Waste Management’s designated disposal facility in Arlington, Ore.

Clearance Sampling. Monica Oakley, of Ahtna Environmental Services, the contractor who performed the remedial action, conducts tests on the soil to make sure all the contaminated soil is removed.

Photos: Courtesy of Alaska Army National Guard

By Major Guy Hayes, DMVA Public Affairs

CAMP DENALI, Alaska ... The Alaska Army National Guard was awarded the 2009 Environmental Restoration Award for an Installation by the National Guard Bureau in May in San Antonio, Texas.

The award was in recognition of the Alaska Army National Guard’s environmental program, which in the last two years has cleaned up 11 sites in Western Alaska and is on schedule to clean up eight more sites in 2010.

The clean-up effort was in response to heating oil or diesel fuel that has leaked or spilled from tanks throughout the last 20 years at remote National Guard armories.

As the largest, most northern and among the least populated states, Alaska’s distance, lack of infrastructure and extremely short season for field work can make it challenging to get the job done, but the Alaska Army National Guard has worked hard to clean up these sites in innovative ways.

“Seventy-five percent of sites are off the road network and require us to access sites by air or sea,” said Sergeant First Class Nicholas Knowles, federal environmental program manager, Alaska Army National Guard. “It’s the ultimate test in logistics.”

The Alaska Army National Guard’s successful approach and answer to keeping costs down involves soil remediation in phases or locations, organized by proximity to five transportation hubs – Nome, Bethel, Kotzebue, Fairbanks and Juneau – which allows the Guard to focus equipment and staff on one region at a time so resources can be shared simultaneously.

“Alaska is one-fifth of the size of the United States, with just a fraction of the infrastructure to get around,” said Lieutenant Colonel Joel Gilbert, construction and facilities management officer, Alaska Army National Guard. “This means we need to work smart to get the job done.”

After a site is chosen for remediation, the soil is removed by a front-end loader or backhoe; lab tests then measure the full spectrum of the elements in the soil and determine when all the contaminated soil is removed.

“The excavated soil is placed in ‘super-sacks,’ loaded into 20-cubic-yard containers and barged to Seattle, where it’s loaded back on a truck and shipped to Waste Management’s designated disposal facility in Arlington, Ore.,” said Herbert “Gil” Guillory, state environmental program manager.

This effort dedicated to cleaning up the environment has in the last two years led to a total of 627 tons of soil removed with an additional 592 tons to be removed in the summer of 2010.

The Alaska National Guard will also investigate an additional 21 sites in 2010 and 2011 to delineate impacted soil with diesel range organics above the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation cleanup levels for future remedial actions, added Guillory.

To help monitor and eliminate spills in the future, the Alaska Army National Guard has now installed electronic, aboveground storage tank sensors on all fuel tanks at Guard armories. The sensors will monitor the diesel fuel levels and detect if a sudden, unexpected drop in fuel level occurs.

“We want to make sure we’re doing everything we can to monitor the fuel levels and keep any large spills from occurring in these communities,” Guillory said.

The National Guard in Alaska continues to find innovative ways to take care of armories at more than 70 locations across Alaska, with the knowledge that a number of these armories may eventually be transferred to the ownership of the community where they are an important resource.

“Alaska National Guard armories are valuable resources to communities across rural Alaska. Men and women in these villages have served in the Guard since World War II, with armories often used as community centers or meeting halls. So it’s important that when we train, we leave the communities with the confidence that we’re not going to disrupt their lifestyle or their environment,” said Major General Thomas H. Katkus, adjutant general of the Alaska National Guard.

“The bottom line is we’ve done our best to protect human health and the environment. The results have shown, and we’re proud of that,” Guillory said. ■

Ground Broken for NEW BETHEL ARMORY

By Staff Sergeant Karima Turner, DMVA Public Affairs

CAMP DENALI, Alaska ... The long-awaited groundbreaking for construction of a new National Guard Armory in Bethel finally happened in June.

The official party dug up dirt as a symbol of “breaking ground” to start construction of the new Alaska National Guard Bethel Readiness Center. Brigadier General J. Randy Banez, assistant adjutant general, Alaska Army National Guard; Representative Bob Herron, Alaska State Legislature; Jim Miller, project superintendent, Unit Construction; Lieutenant Governor Craig Campbell; First Lieutenant Jason Caldwell, B Company, 1st Battalion commander, 143rd Infantry Regiment, Alaska Army National Guard; and Major General Thomas H. Katkus, adjutant general, Alaska National Guard; all hoisted shovelfuls of dirt.

The new armory, the Bethel Readiness Center, scheduled for July 2011 completion, will have about 23,000 square feet and cost roughly \$16 million, with 75 percent of the money coming from the federal government and 25 percent from the state.

“It’s very important that this new armory is built in Bethel,” said Mike Singleton, facilities maintenance office building management specialist. “The current armory doesn’t meet the Soldiers’ needs. They have more equipment than what can be housed in the current armory, and a renovation of the old facility would not meet the new mission and current status of the Guard. So the old armory will get turned over to Bethel, and the Guard will still lease space in the old armory so recruiters have a central location to work out of downtown.”

The design of the new armory will accommodate personnel not only from Bethel but also the outlying Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta area. The design will add six classrooms, a distance learning

center, library, and storage areas for the military police company, infantry and airborne units. It is also outfitted with new lockers for Soldiers to store their military issued equipment. In addition, a physical fitness area and warming kitchen are in the works for the new armory.

“I think it was designed for approximately 75 troops,” Singleton said. “That dictated the amount of square feet, the number of offices and other design improvements we were authorized. In the current armory, the physical fitness equipment is jammed into what should be the men’s latrine area because the gym is utilized by the school, so we are working to make it better for the people who need to work and train there.”

Like most things in Alaska, building an armory in Bethel is very challenging. Before the groundbreaking, weather, geological concerns and logistical details had to be taken into account.

“Everything in Bethel is permafrost,” said Captain Ryan Feil, facilities maintenance office design and project manager. “That’s why everything that’s out there is either built on pilings or has the anti-siphon system. Everything on grade has the anti-siphon system – that’s the only way you can do it if you are going to put the building directly on the ground.”

“You also have pockets of peat moss, and you don’t know how deep they are going to be until you get into them,” Singleton added. “Once they excavate the ground, we are going to have to bring in soil and fill it back up to grade. And before we put the building in, they are going to have to put a freeze-back system in, which, with the use of an anti-siphon system, will keep the ground frozen under the facility so we don’t get shifts and heaving in the foundation.”

The architect also had to consider the environment and weather conditions when designing the new Bethel Readiness Center. It is designed to handle earthquakes, a higher wind rating and extra insulation requirements for the arctic environment.

Projects in Alaska are often very expensive to build, especially when building structures off the limited road system.

“Any place that’s not on a road system, where freight has to be barged into, requires longer lead times, and that makes it difficult to easily make modifications,” Singleton said. “Here in Anchorage,

Breaking Ground. The official party digs up dirt in June as a symbol of “breaking ground” to start construction of the new Alaska National Guard Bethel Readiness Center. From left, Brigadier General J. Randy Banez, assistant adjutant general, Alaska Army National Guard; Representative Bob Herron, Alaska State Legislature; Jim Miller, project superintendent, Unit Construction; Lieutenant Governor Craig Campbell; First Lieutenant Jason Caldwell, B Company, 1st Battalion commander, 143rd Infantry Regiment, Alaska Army National Guard; Major General Thomas H. Katkus, adjutant general, Alaska National Guard. Photo: Private First Class Karina Paraoan, DMVA Public Affairs



we have the ability to modify projects easier; however, in Bethel, if we ship something, we need to make sure everything is correct because the distance, logistics and cost are all concerns.”

One of the ways they will try to cut costs is to use local labor to help do the job.

“More local assistance that help in the project will definitely help keep project costs down and is good for the community,” Singleton said.

The location of the new armory was also a concern, so plans were made to build the new armory next to the Bethel Army Aviation Operating Facility.

“It was planned this way so they are co-located,” Feil said. “If Soldiers have to do anything involving the Army Aviation Operating Facility, they don’t have to get shuttled back and forth; they can just walk over and schedule a flight, and that will also allow for a quicker response time for other missions.”

The completion of the project is scheduled for July 2011, but it won’t be turned over to the units until the building is furnished, estimated to be sometime in December 2011. ■

Project Board. A board listing the number of days it will take to build the Alaska National Guard’s Bethel Readiness Center and an image of the finished project was displayed during the ground breaking ceremony. Photo: Private First Class Karina Paraoan, DMVA Public Affairs

PROJECT DURATION	477 days	10/02/2009	08/01/2011
MOBILIZATION	21 days	06/02/2010	06/30/2010
CIVIL WORK	262 days	06/10/2010	06/10/2011
CONCRETE	28 days	07/07/2010	08/13/2010
BUILDING ENVELOPE	66 days	07/29/2010	10/28/2010
INTERIOR FINISH	136 days	10/04/2010	04/11/2011
DEMOLITION	25 days	05/27/2011	06/30/2011
PROJECT CLOSEOUT	102 days	03/10/2011	07/29/2011



Digging In. A digger preps the area in June for construction of the Alaska National Guard’s new armory, the Bethel Readiness Center. Completion is scheduled for July 2011 but the project won’t be turned over to the units until the building is furnished, estimated for December 2011. Photo: Private First Class Karina Paraoan, DMVA Public Affairs

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All-Female Aircrew. Alaska Air National Guard members with the 249th Airlift Squadron, accompanied by Brigadier General Deborah McManus, smile before the first-ever 176th Wing Alaska Air National Guard all-female aircrew mission to Boise, Idaho, in April. From left to right: McManus, assistant adjutant general, Alaska Air National Guard; Captain Allison Snow, aircraft commander; Staff Sergeant Christina Cordes, loadmaster; Captain Laura Grossman, copilot; and Major Krista Staff, instructor pilot.

Alaska National Guard Members Make History as First All-Female Aircrew

Story and photos by Private First Class Karina Paraoan, DMVA Public Affairs

CAMP DENALI, Alaska ... Four Alaska Air National Guard members with the 249th Airlift Squadron made history in April as the first 176th Wing all-female aircrew to fly an Alaska Air National Guard aircraft.

The mission included Captain Allison Snow, aircraft commander; Major Krista Staff, instructor pilot; Captain Laura Grossman, copilot; and Staff Sergeant Christina Cordes, loadmaster. The four-person crew, accompanied by Brigadier General Deborah McManus, assistant adjutant general, Alaska Air National Guard, flew a C-17 Globemaster from Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska, to Boise International Guard Base, Idaho.

Although this mission was a milestone for the 176th Wing of the Alaska Air National Guard, all those involved treated the flight as just another day doing what they love and what they're trained to do.

"This was the first all-female aircrew for the Alaska Air National Guard 176th Wing, but we all work the same regardless of gender," Staff said. "The Air Guard is like being part of one big family, and even though the guys tease us sometimes, they know we're as good as they are, and we continue to prove it. They don't look at us any differently because we're women — we're more like their wingmen."

The one-day mission to Idaho was to pick up 60 Alaska Army National Guardsmen with the 1/297th Cavalry who had been in Idaho for their two-week annual training.



Copilot on All-Female Crew. Captain Laura Grossman, 249th Airlift Squadron, Alaska Air National Guard, goes over C-17 Globemaster pre-flight inspections an hour before takeoff to Boise, Idaho, in April. Grossman was copilot of the first-ever 176th Wing all-female aircrew mission in the Alaska Air National Guard.

The crew and C-17 took off at 9 a.m., arriving at Boise International Guard Base four hours later. They spent one hour on the ground, loading the Army Guardsmen and gear on the C-17, with the engines still running and their eyes on the weather.

"Turning off the engines and restarting would have taken a lot more time and risked possible complications," Snow said. "And with the rain coming down sideways when we landed, we knew we had to get out of there quickly."

After dodging the tough weather, the crew took off again for Alaska, landing a successful mission back in Anchorage at 7 p.m.

"I am very proud that we put this all-female aircrew together," McManus said. "The Alaska National Guard is truly equal opportunity, and we can always use more female pilots and aircrew serving in the Air National Guard." ■

Alaska Hosts VIGILANT GUARD Exercise

By Sergeant First Class Jon Soucy
National Guard Bureau

ANCHORAGE, Alaska ... Members of the Alaska National Guard were joined by 50 other state and federal organizations in April to take part in Vigilant Guard, a disaster-based training scenario that tests the coordination of these disaster preparedness organizations.

"We are testing an unbelievable amount of effort and synchronization," said Major General Thomas H. Katkus, adjutant general of the Alaska National Guard. "Every one of them is a little bit different in what we're trying to do, but it's one

driving factor – the earthquake – that affects everyone across the broad spectrum."

By working with local first responders in a training environment, it will help strengthen those bonds should an actual large-scale disaster or emergency occur.



Training Together. A member of the 103rd Civil Support Team-Weapons of Mass Destruction, left, decontaminates a local first responder during a simulated chemical spill response as part of a training scenario in exercise Vigilant Guard in Anchorage. Vigilant Guard is an annual disaster-based training scenario to test the coordination of National Guard units with local, state, regional and national disaster preparedness organizations.

Photo: Sergeant First Class Jon Soucy, U.S. Army

"It reinforces those relationships that we said, and I've always professed, are critical if we are going to be successful in a large-scale response," said Katkus, noting that the exercise also reinforces the Guard's role within the local community.

"What it says is we are effectively involved in our communities," he said. "We are effectively involved in our government, and we are trained and ready and prepared to not only respond effectively, efficiently and timely, but with the right resources."

Being able to respond with the right resources at the right time is one of the key elements to success in a disaster situation, said Katkus, which is something the Guard provides.

"We've got the right mix of engineers and different folks that can get out there and assist with getting an adequate inventory of what has been damaged and what is still in existence," Katkus said. "Training events like this make us much more able to synchronize and bring to bear resources that are needed to fix the problem. This is why you rehearse. To do this without rehearsing would be a bad day."

Other Guard resources taking part in the exercise include chemical, biological, nuclear and high-yield explosive enhanced response force package teams, who specialize in search and rescue and medical triage; expeditionary medical support teams who provide rapid, on-site medical care; and civil support teams, whose mission is to detect and identify chemical agents.

The Guard will be able to provide one other key element needed in a disaster response – communications.

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Through the Joint Incident Site Communications Capability, a mobile communications package, state, local and federal agencies will be able to communicate with one another despite using different radio frequencies. Additionally, the system provides telephone and satellite communication abilities, which translate into a tremendous reach-back capability, said Katkus. And having that communication capability is important when you have a state as large as Alaska with the nearest state more than 2,000 miles away.

"This is a big state and it's challenging," he said. "We need to still communicate with each other, still share resources efficiently and effectively, and keep local government effective, state government effective and maintain national visibility."

Being able to maintain that ability after a major earthquake is something that those in Alaska have first-hand experience with. In March 1964, the area was hit with a 9.2 magnitude earthquake, the most powerful recorded earthquake to hit North America.

"I was alive in 1964 when we did experience this magnitude of an event," Katkus said. "To now look at the preparation, the technology and how much we've transformed as a state since 1964 and what



Saving Lives. Members of the Hawaii National Guard's Chemical, Biological, Nuclear and High-Yield Explosives Enhanced Response Force Package prepare a patient for movement after extracting him from the rubble of a simulated collapsed parking garage during the training scenario of exercise Vigilant Guard.

Photo: Sergeant First Class Jon Soucy, U.S. Army

we have as far as capacity and capability to respond in an organized manner is amazing."

In addition to testing its abilities in Vigilant Guard, the Alaska Guard will be taking part in the state's exercise, Alaska Shield, and the U.S. military's Joint Task Force Alaska's Arctic Edge exercise — two

other exercises happening concurrently and tied into the earthquake response scenario.

"It is one event in time," said Katkus, referring to the earthquake scenario.

"But it's three big muscle groups coming together. We've trained hard to be able to respond to the needs of the state and the nation." ■

Mongolian Emergency Managers Observe Vigilant Guard Exercise

Story and photo by Staff Sergeant Karima Turner, DMVA Public Affairs

CAMP DENALI, Alaska ... Vigilant Guard played an important role in the National Guard's State Partnership Program. In addition to increasing interoperability between state, federal and volunteer agencies, this full-scale disaster-response exercise in April provided a unique learning opportunity for the Mongolian delegates.

Since 2003, the Alaska National Guard and Mongolia have been forming a relationship through the State Partnership Program. Mongolia was partnered with Alaska in part because the two regions so closely resemble each other in size, terrain and many natural disasters, including earthquakes.

Mongolia sent nine representatives from four different organizations, from the municipal to the national government, to observe the full-scale earthquake-based exercise and bring back useful new knowledge to their country.

Since 2006, Mongolia and Alaska have participated in Khaan Quest, a combined joint training exercise designed to strengthen the capabilities of United States and

Mongolian armed forces in international peace support operations worldwide.

"For Khaan Quest next year, I plan on implementing and practicing what we learned at Vigilant Guard with the training we will be doing during Khaan Quest," said Uuganbayar Batmunkh, head of the training division for the National Emergency Management Agency in Ulan Bataar, Mongolia. "We will train our people in the classroom on what we learned here; then we will put it into play with hands-on field training."

The representatives had the chance to study and learn about nearly every aspect of emergency and disaster response through Vigilant Guard.

"The delegation had the opportunity to visit several of the disaster venues during Vigilant Guard and took away their observations and the lessons that we've learned as a state in how to conduct an exercise," said Lieutenant Colonel Stephen Wilson, Alaska-Mongolia State Partnership Program coordinator. "They will be able to use that information to help prepare their own organization for response to a



Partnership. Amgalan Jambalsuren, captain of the Mongolia Metropolitan Police Department, learns about plans management from George Mayberry, a plans management intelligence specialist for the Alaska Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Management, during the Vigilant Guard exercise in April. Vigilant Guard is a premiere joint training exercise designed to increase interoperability between federal, state, local and volunteer agencies in case of a disaster.

disaster and prepare for exercising that response."

"Mongolia is very concerned with earthquake disasters," Wilson said. "In January, they felt a 5.5-magnitude earthquake, and shortly thereafter larger earthquakes hit Haiti and Chile. Then a little more than 800 miles away from their homeland, a 6.9-magnitude earthquake struck in northwest China's Qinghai province, so it is very important that they were able to observe this kind of large-scale training." ■

GUARDSMEN EARN EXCELLENT RATING IN OPERATIONAL READINESS INSPECTION

By Captain Maria Perkins, 168th Air Refueling Wing Public Affairs

EIELSON AIR FORCE BASE, Alaska ... The 168th Air Refueling Wing completed a week-long Operational Readiness Inspection in May with an “Excellent” overall rating. The ORI was a combined inspection for active-duty Airmen assigned to the 354th Fighter Wing and Guardsmen assigned to the 168th Air Refueling Wing at Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska.

The inspection began with a recall of forces to initiate a simulated short-notice deployment to deter hostilities, defend host national sovereignty and maintain regional stability in the Pacific region. Both wings endured four days of deployment activities, along with multiple simulated disturbances base-wide, such as fires, fuel spills, thefts and shooting incidents.

To prepare for this inspection, Lieutenant Colonel Timothy Trefts, 168th Air Refueling Wing chief of wing plans, teamed up with the 354th Fighter Wing inspector general to create a series of operational readiness exercises which were executed throughout the past year.

“There was no doubt in my mind that we were ready,” Trefts said. “When the inspection kicked off, our Guardsmen jumped right in, responding to scenarios and showing the inspectors they knew what they were doing. All of our hard work paid off. We are the best tanker unit in the world, and now everyone else knows it too.”

At the end of an inspection, the wing inspected is given an overall rating based on their ability to meet mission requirements. The rating scale ranges from “unsatisfactory” to “outstanding.” The last inspection of the 168th was in May 2004, when the wing received an overall “satisfactory” rating, indicating that the wing meets mission requirements. This year, the wing’s goal was to receive an “excellent,” which reflects that the wing exceeds mission requirements.

Inspectors from Headquarters Pacific Air Forces, Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii, observed and graded both wings throughout the week.



Flight Line Injury. Alaska Air National Guardsmen from the 168th Air Refueling Wing perform self-aid and buddy care for Chief Master Sergeant Phil Hunt, who simulated an injury on the flight line. Photo: Airman First Class Quayana Smith, U.S. Air Force



Searching for Suspicious Activity. Technical Sergeant Thomas Andrukiewicz looks for suspicious activity while executing door guard duties during the Operational Readiness Inspection at Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska. Andrukiewicz is assigned to the 168th Air Refueling Wing, maintenance fabrication. The wing passed a weeklong inspection evaluating its ability to survive and operate during real world situations.

Photo: Airman First Class Quayana Smith, U.S. Air Force

“Unit personnel were eager to demonstrate their proficiency; seamless integration with the 354th Fighter Wing truly made this the best ORI performance I’ve seen in three years on the job. The 168th is absolutely ready to accomplish their in-place and deployed wartime mission,” said Colonel Brian Smith, Pacific Air Forces inspector general.

Throughout the inspection, several Guardsmen distinguished themselves and earned special recognition from the inspector general’s team. (See chart on the next page.)

Colonel Scott Wenke, 168th Air Refueling Wing commander, held a Commander’s Call following the exercise to congratulate the wing for its outstanding work.

“I witnessed a wing full of warriors execute their mission with honor, courage, integrity and greatness,” Wenke said. “One of the most impressive things I saw was how the ‘Guardians of the Last Frontier’ worked hand in hand with their active-duty counterparts, showcasing what real total force teamwork is supposed to look like. ‘Excellent!’ ... this is how the Pacific Theater sees you, our hometown Air Force. Be proud of this accomplishment. It wasn’t one person who made this happen; it was a team of about 500 who came together and shined.” ■



Decontaminating. Lieutenant Colonel Leigh Scarboro decontaminates before entering a building at Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska. Scarboro, 168th Maintenance Group deputy commander, ensures that no contaminants from her chemical suit enter the building.

Photo: Airman First Class Quayana Smith, U.S. Air Force

The following individuals were named outstanding performers, and received a certificate and coin from the PACAF inspector general:

- Captain Katarina Johnson, 168th Operations Group
- Master Sergeant Pat Czajka, 168th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron
- Master Sergeant Rebecca Seherich, 168th Maintenance Operations Squadron
- Senior Airman Cody Smith, 168th Maintenance Group
- Senior Airman Brian Washburn, 168th Logistics Readiness Squadron

The following individuals were additional outstanding performers and received a certificate from the PACAF inspector general:

- Captain Irma Keator, 168th Medical Group
- Captain Matt McClurg, 168th Maintenance Group
- Master Sergeant Sam Amos, 168th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron
- Master Sergeant Brian Harlan, 168th Air Refueling Squadron
- Technical Sergeant Adam Benson, 168th Maintenance Group
- Technical Sergeant Gene Monahan, 168th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron
- Staff Sergeant Tracy Yaeger, 168th Operations Group
- Senior Airman Christopher Moore, 168th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

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Alaska Military Youth Academy Team Leader's Quick Action Saves Cadet

Story and photo by Staff Sergeant Karima Turner, DMVA Public Affairs

CAMP DENALI, Alaska ... Thanks to the quick thinking and decisive action of an Alaska Military Youth Academy team leader, one cadet is back at the AMYA ChalleNGe Program learning to become a productive member of the community.

In early April, shortly after lunch, Johannes Manrique, an Alaska Military Youth Academy team leader, noticed one of the cadets, James LeBlanc-Tweedy, breaking out in a rash on his neck and face and having a very difficult time breathing.

"I was scared," LeBlanc-Tweedy said. "I'd never had an allergic reaction before,

and all of a sudden I started itching and coughing, and then I couldn't breathe. I was really scared, but I didn't panic because Mr. Manrique was there, and I trust him. He'd gotten me that far, and I knew he'd help me. Without him, I'd probably be dead."

Without hesitation, Manrique assessed the young man, determined that immediate medical attention was needed and promptly escorted the cadet to the program medical section.


Manrique, who served in the Army for six years prior to joining the staff at the Alaska Military Youth Academy, embodies the qualities of a Soldier – polite, reserved and humble. He credits his military training and Alaska Military Youth Academy training experience for knowing what to do.

"I noticed the cadet was having problems breathing, got him up, got his gear and took him straight to the nurse's station, but I had a very small role in this," Manrique said. "Someone would have noticed he was having trouble breathing; it just happened to have been me. Our nurses really played a big role in this with administering the EpiPen and getting the cadet to the emergency room."

Almost immediately upon arrival to the medical section, LeBlanc-Tweedy began complaining of severe tightening in his throat and had increased difficulty breathing. An EpiPen was administered only minutes after Manrique initially recognized the symptoms of a severe allergic reaction.


"When Mr. Manrique got me to the medical station, I could hardly breathe. They tried using a nebulizer on me, but that didn't work," LeBlanc-Tweedy said. "When they tested my oxygen levels, they were in the 40s and my fingertips were blue. The last thing I remember is the doctor giving me a shot with an EpiPen and waking up in an ambulance."

"Mr. Manrique quickly recognized that Cadet LeBlanc-Tweedy was not simply having a mild problem, but an emergency, and immediately escorted him to the medical clinic. We put a nebulizer on him and saw some improvement, but after two minutes he began to deteriorate, and his breathing rapidly deteriorated as well," said Dr. Kevin Maguire, Alaska Military Youth Academy Medical Clinic doctor. "At that point we called 911 and gave him some epinephrine with an EpiPen. Within 30 seconds he stopped wheezing, and five minutes later, when the Elmendorf Fire




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A Life Saver. Alaska Military Youth Academy Team Leader Johannes Manrique, left, and Cadet James LeBlanc-Tweedy. Manrique, a team leader at the Alaska Military Youth Academy for nearly five years, is credited with saving the young cadet's life in April after LeBlanc-Tweedy had a severe allergic reaction to an unknown allergen. According to medical professionals, had Manrique waited even two minutes longer to seek medical attention, the cadet would likely have stopped breathing.

and Rescue arrived, he was much better. If Mr. Manrique had waited two minutes later to act, the cadet would have probably stopped breathing. In a nutshell – he saved the cadet's life."

Today, LeBlanc-Tweedy is back in training, focusing on getting his GED and high school diploma, and says one of his "biggest goals is to join the Alaska Army National Guard."

"I have some more work to do to get an ASVAB score that I'm happy with," LeBlanc-Tweedy said. "But now, thanks to Mr. Manrique, I will have the opportunity to pursue my goal. Without Mr. Manrique knowing that I was in trouble, I don't know what would have happened. I am just really

grateful that he knew what to do and helped me get to the doctor. I'm lucky I'm alive, and I really want to do well at the academy and make him proud."

"The key to saving Cadet LeBlanc-Tweedy's life was the direct result of the proactive and professional response to the cadet's initial medical issues by Team Leader Manrique," said Craig Christiansen, Alaska Military Youth Academy program director. "If Team Leader Manrique had failed to recognize the seriousness of the symptoms, or waited to make a decision to take the cadet to medical personnel, the cadet would have likely experienced a more serious medical condition, to include the potential of death." ■

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Remembrance and New Health Care Facilities Brighten Veterans' Lives

By Verdie Bowen, State Veterans Office

CAMP DENALI, Alaska ... For as long as we have been a nation, we have always expressed our commitment that we will never forget those who died in service to our country.

I am concerned that to some Alaskans, Memorial Day is just another three-day weekend, or the beginning of the Alaska fishing season. We, as veterans, can do something about that and keep our promise to those who have given their all.

Share your story of a special family member or a fellow Soldier, Sailor, Airman or Marine who was lost while serving in uniform. The stories of their courage never grow old. They bear repeating so that our memory of their service spans the generations.



Fallen Warriors Ceremony Salute. Three members of the Viet Nam Vets Motorcycle Club and Brigadier General Deborah McManus, assistant adjutant general, Alaska Air National Guard, second from right, salute during the fallen warriors ceremony held during the Alaska Veterans Memorial ceremony at Byers Lake in Denali State Park in May. Photo: Major Guy Hayes, DMVA Public Affairs

As I travel around the state holding town hall meetings, I try to meet as many veterans as I can. I can say without reservation that we are blessed to have so many veteran role models for our younger generation. In every town and village I visit, I have found great people volunteering and supporting veterans. Without these wonderful people, we would be hard pressed to accomplish great things. The best example of volunteers and support is evident around Memorial Day. Each year, I marvel at how the events are arranged, planned and performed by volunteers. Please take the time to thank these unsung heroes.

Now with the snow gone and the sun high, veterans all around the state are working hard to enjoy the long-awaited summer. With summer's warmth, we participated in the ribbon-cutting for the new VA Medical Clinic in Anchorage. We also attended the ground-breaking for the new Fisher House on Elmendorf Air Force Base. These two events are more than symbolic. They are true victories for our Alaska veterans. Not long ago, veteran access to basic health care was very limited, but with the new clinic, services are numerous. The Fisher House, when complete, will give veterans and active-duty families a place to stay free of charge while receiving health care. What a big win for us all to have a Fisher House and a new veterans clinic!

We will have another big win for veterans in Southeast Alaska. This fall, the VA will open a new Veterans Outreach Clinic in Juneau. This will bring our VA Outreach Clinics total to four. We currently have them in Fairbanks, Wasilla and Kenai. This new facility will be on the first floor of the federal building. When it opens, I suspect a huge ribbon-cutting event will be held by the VA and local veterans groups. So stand by for a date and time for this wonderful occasion. ■



Guest Speaker Senator Murkowski. U.S. Senator Lisa Murkowski rides in via motorcycle to the Alaska Veterans Memorial ceremony at Byers Lake in Denali State Park carrying the American flag. Murkowski was one of the guest speakers at the event honoring those who have served and given their lives in defense of the United States and freedom. Photo: Major Guy Hayes, DMVA Public Affairs



Governor's Proclamation. Governor Sean Parnell gives the Governor's Proclamation to more than 300 people at the Alaska Veterans Memorial ceremony at Byers Lake in Denali State Park. Parnell rode into the event on the back of a motorcycle carrying the Alaska flag. Photo: Major Guy Hayes, DMVA Public Affairs

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Homeland Security & Emergency Management



From Chaos to Control – Coordination of a Catastrophic Event: THE STATE EMERGENCY COORDINATION CENTER

By Jeremy Zidek, DHS&EM Public Affairs

CAMP DENALI, Alaska ... It's 9:01 a.m., April 26, 2010. The earth has been shaking, jerking and heaving for what seem like hours. Parts of the building are collapsing around you while lights and ceiling tiles are falling. With arms covering your face and head as you curl under your desk at work, you see and hear everything crashing. You are wondering if your kids are safe at school. If you live in a coastal community, you are listening for the tsunami warning, knowing that you and your family will need to evacuate immediately.

By the time the shaking ends and you reach out to your family to assess their safety, the Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Management has fully activated the State Emergency Coordination Center to coordinate all of the local, state, federal, private sector, and volunteer entities that planned, trained and exercised together

for all hazards. Fortunately, this event was only an exercise – April's Alaska Shield-Vigilant Guard-Arctic Edge 2010 simulated a catastrophic 8.5 magnitude earthquake.

"Disaster response is truly a team effort. No single agency within the state or federal government can fill all emergency requests during a major disaster. It requires a

combined effort to put the right resource, in the right place, at the right time, to do the most good," said John Madden, DHS&EM director. "Disaster response starts with local responders and local governments. When their resources are fully committed, they contact the SECC and tell us what they need. We find a way to meet that need."

Emergency Operations centers coordinate disaster response at the local level. During the six days of Alaska Shield, Anchorage, Valdez, Cordova, Unalaska, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, the Kenai Peninsula Borough, the Alaska Railroad Corporation, the Department of Corrections' Wildwood Prison, and the Department of Health and Social Services activated their EOCs. The Alaska National Guard, Joint Task Force Alaska/Alaskan Command and the U.S. Coast Guard activated their Joint Operations Centers, the military equivalent of an EOC.

Many of the local requests for assistance through EOCs to the SECC were for search and rescue. In Anchorage, a structural collapse simulator or rubble pile honed Anchorage Fire Department and Guard Civil Support Team rescue, lifesaving and extraction techniques. The U.S. Army Reserve established a mobile field hospital and received earthquake patients pulled from the rubble pile, which will remain as a permanent training tool.

Anchorage's emergency medical teams and hospitals increased their readiness to manage large numbers of critically injured cases through simulated mass casualties. A simulated train derailment and chemical spill brought together the Alaska Railroad, the State Hazardous Materials Team, the 95th Chemical Division and the Department of Environmental Conservation to work side by side in a hazardous materials incident.

Building on a solid foundation of community emergency preparedness, many Cordova and Valdez residents participated in Alaska Shield 2010. Valdez activated their Emergency Operations Center within the first hour of the earthquake, responding to 911 and other calls, testing tsunami warning systems successfully, assessing and requesting support, including mass rescue. The Valdez Swift Water Search and Rescue Team worked side by side with the U.S. Coast Guard and the Guard to rescue tsunami victims swept out to sea, while other volunteers were rescued from land.



Fully Activated SECC. Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Management personnel and multi-agency response partners staff the State Emergency Coordination Center during the Alaska Shield-Vigilant Guard-Arctic Edge exercise. Short of a major disaster or full-scale exercise, a fully activated SECC is rare. Photo: Larry Dixon, Kentucky Emergency Management

The “moulage” special effects workers simulated injuries while the enthusiastic acting of volunteers added realism. The hospital successfully triaged and treated rescued victims at the hospital and an alternate care site.

Cordova was the site of four Alaska Shield mass casualty and rescue events: a simulated collapse, the Trident Seafood plant ammonia release and two single-person rescues, one in a remote area. Local emergency responders and the Alaska National Guard successfully rescued all victims, while the hospital received and treated them. Volunteers for mass sheltering were of all ages, some of whom trained previously to run a disaster kitchen. Those volunteers fed exercise participants at the EOC, the shelter and a mobile feeding center. The entire school system evacuated to the high school, where they educated students on earthquakes, tsunamis, and search and rescue. Boy Scouts used a road check point to give out tsunami materials, while the school drama club made the scenario convincing as victims. Cordova activated the first known fully pre-planned pet shelter in Alaska. The local fire department, together with the Alaska National Guard 103rd Civil Support Team, simulated and responded to an ammonia leak at the Trident Seafood plant. The 103rd CST also trained local responders to identify meth lab hazards.

Through clear and decisive incident action plans, the SECC coordinated local, state and federal activity. Several state agencies played key roles during the exercise. The Division of Transportation and Public Facilities constructed a bridge over Ship Creek to replace bridges notionally damaged during the exercise, allowing traffic flow between Anchorage and the Mat-Su Valley. The Division of Natural Resources worked in the Logistics section, helping to ensure that requested resources were ordered and received. The department brought together federal agencies with offices in Alaska, including USCG, the Federal Aviation Administration and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to provide immediate support until the arrival of other national resources. The Federal Emergency Management Agency also established points of distribution nationally for emergency supplies and supported local evacuation shelters in disaster-affected areas.

“The exercise demonstrated the state’s ability to manage a major disaster. In the SECC, we coordinated with agency liaisons from the Alaska National Guard, FEMA, active-duty military, state of Alaska assets, private nonprofit, voluntary agencies,



Combined Rescue. The Valdez Fire Department and Alaska National Guard personnel combine forces to rescue a simulated building collapse victim. Civilian emergency responders and active Guard are brought together through a community request to the State Emergency Coordination Center. Photo: Mike Drummond, DHS&EM

and emergency management assets from the other states and Canada,” said Bryan Fisher, DHS&EM operations manager. “Major disasters are rare; exercises give us the opportunity to sharpen our skills and strengthen our partnerships when Alaskan lives are not threatened.”

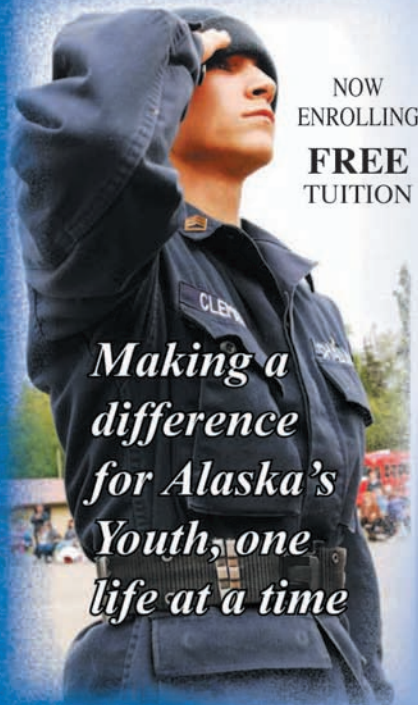
Recent earthquakes in Haiti, American Samoa and Chile, as well as Alaska’s 1964 Good Friday earthquake, serve as reminders to all Alaskans of the need to prepare for disasters. Alaska Shield participants spent 18 months planning, training and exercising together before Alaska Shield

2010. They began catastrophic disaster planning for future events within days after its completion. Those plans will likely be tested in the Alaska Shield 2012 exercise, continuing Alaska’s cycle of preparedness.

“Testing the SECC’s ability to respond to a major disaster taught us a great deal about our capabilities. We have reaffirmed our understanding of the things we do well and discovered areas that need improvements,” Madden said. “Those lessons have already set in motion a process that has begun to make Alaska better prepared for future events.” ■



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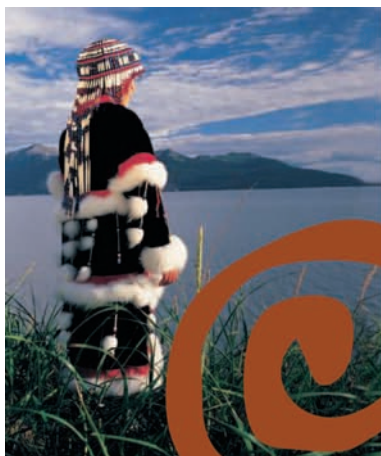
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Missile Defense

Photos by Staff Sergeant Jack W Carlson III, 49th Missile Defense Battalion



Battalion Color Guard. Members of the 49th Missile Defense Battalion Color Guard present the national colors during the opening ceremony for the annual Relay for Life walk this May. The battalion Relay for Life Team raised more than \$5,000 to support the fight against cancer. The presentation of the national colors is conducted by the Battalion Color Guard at more than 40 events annually.



Saluting the Colors. Staff Sergeant Kenneth Seymore III, communications chief, 49th Missile Defense Battalion, renders a salute to the national colors during the opening ceremony for the annual Relay for Life Walk held at the Delta Junction High School track this May.



Litter Carry Practice. Soldiers from the 49th Missile Defense Battalion conduct litter carry exercises during a morning of physical fitness training at the Fort Greely fitness center this spring. The battery conducts physical fitness training three days a week with Friday sessions devoted to morale and team building exercises. The litter carry is one of many methods to remove a casualty from the battlefield, a task at which all Soldiers are expected to be competent.



Verbal Altercation. Specialist Derrick Butler, military police officer, 49th Missile Defense Battalion, questions role player Staff Sergeant Kenneth Seymore III, communications chief, on his actions in the verbal altercation scenario at the 2nd Platoon Military Police Squad competition this spring. The one-day exercise, held over 18 hours, tested Soldiers on their ability to respond as a squad to various situations that could occur while on duty at the Missile Defense Complex at Fort Greely, Alaska.



Alaska National Guardsman Teaches Life Skills to Alaskan Youth

By Major Guy Hayes, DMVA Public Affairs

CAMP DENALI, Alaska ... An Alaska National Guardsman taught life skills and risk assessment to a group of school kids in a Voyage to Excellence program in Whittier, Alaska, in February.

Chief Warrant Officer Scott Frickson, director of the Alaska National Guard rural education drug program, was invited to speak to 18 students about drug education, life skills and understanding consequences from actions during the program's leadership phase.

"Kids don't always see the long-term consequences," Frickson said. "I have the kids complete a risk assessment process so they can understand consequences from their actions. I also try to instill that it's good to have hopes and dreams and a plan for later down the road."

Frickson assists the Voyage to Excellence, Anchorage House team, a youth

program that includes four Alaska school districts, with the goal, according to its website, "to foster leadership skills and team building amongst students through experiential educational opportunities in unique environments."

"This is a great program that challenges Alaskan youth and has proven results," Frickson commented.

With a 98 percent graduation rate, the program has four core phases and provides students opportunities to apply what they learn in school to real-life situations. The four phases focus on personal growth, teamwork, problem solving, decision-making and career exploration. It even includes a parent portion in which the whole family gets involved to focus on working together as a family unit.

"Engaging the parents and understanding the child's family background is beneficial in helping kids be successful,"



How a Helicopter Works. Warrant Officer Joshua Cormier, pilot, A Company, 1-207th Aviation, Alaska Army National Guard, speaks to a student from Northwood Elementary School in Anchorage about how a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter works.

Photo: Private First Class Karina Paraoan, DMVA Public Affairs

Frickson said. "Parents who get involved in the program can look at their decisions and understand how those affect their children, and that may assist the parents and students in making better choices."

Helping students make a successful transition from school to life, especially in rural communities across Alaska, is the program's objective.

"We currently have 180 students, but our goal is to grow to at least 500 kids a year," said Billijo Mills, Voyage to Excellence co-director and life skills facilitator. "We're currently at capacity, but we're hoping to grow to include other students across the state. We know we have the need."

Frickson says he enjoys the opportunity to speak to kids and wants them to think about decisions that can have long-term consequences. His goal is to reach as many kids as possible, so they can make better life decisions.

"Scott has been a great addition to the program, and we love the support he provides," Mills said. "He's very candid in his approach, tells them the facts, and that, I believe, really helps him connect with the kids."

The Alaska National Guard Counter Drug Program places Guardsmen in the community to conduct Drug Prevention Education classes for schools and civic organizations, helping Alaskan youth live a drug-free lifestyle and make better life decisions. ■



Black Hawk 101. Sergeant Karen Webb, crew chief, A Company, 1-207th Aviation, Alaska Army National Guard, speaks to students at Northwood Elementary School in Anchorage about the missions and uses of the UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter. Photo: Private First Class Karina Paraoan, DMVA Public Affairs



Alaska Legislature Honors Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve

Story and photos by Major Guy Hayes, DMVA Public Affairs

CAMP DENALI, Alaska ... The 26th Alaska State Legislature in Juneau signed a citation honoring the Alaska Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve in late March.

The citation acknowledged the important work the 37 ESGR members do to help Alaskans and recognized the vital mission performed by the service men and women of the National Guard



ESGR Volunteers Honored. From left, Senator Charlie Huggins; Representative Bill Thomas; Rich Owens, Alaska Committee ESGR chairman; Major General Thomas H. Katkus, adjutant general of the Alaska National Guard; Representative Bob Herron; and Jamie Abordonado, ESGR Alaska executive director, smile during a Juneau ceremony in late March honoring the 37 volunteers of the Alaska committee for ESGR.



Statement of Support. From left, Representative Tammie Wilson, Representative Carl Gatto, Representative Bill Thomas, Senator Charlie Huggins, Representative Bob Herron, Senator Dennis Egan and Senator Fred Dyson sign a statement pledging to support Alaska National Guard and Reserve members.

and Reserve. It also recognized “business, civic and military leaders from across the state who are committed to helping employers adapt to the increasingly important role National Guard and Reserve members play in our nation’s defense, and to creating working environments that better support these service members.”

Legislators also signed a statement pledging to support the 4,516 military members serving in the Alaska National Guard and Reserve. ■

EMPLOYERS HONORED WITH BOSS AWARD

By Stephanie Garrard, ESGR Public Relations

After a Boss Lift orientation flight in May, the Alaska Committee of ESGR recognized two local employers with the “My Boss is a Patriot” award.

Richard and Jennie Weldin, owners of Weldin Construction, and Janeece Higgins, senior vice president, Alaska Rubber Supply, were honored for their support of employees serving in Alaska’s National Guard.

The flight, operated by the Alaska Army National Guard’s 207th Aviation, took passengers over Fort Richardson ranges and up to Knik Glacier. On their return, Executive Director Jamie Abordonado and Alaska Air National Guard Command Chief Master Sergeant Dennis Hogan recognized the two employers receiving the “My Boss is a Patriot” award for their commitment to Alaska’s Guard and Reserve. ■



Employers Awarded. The Alaska Committee of ESGR recognized two employers with the “My Boss is a Patriot” award in May. From left, Bradley Miller, ESGR administrator; Janeece Higgins, Alaska Rubber Supply; Richard and Jennie Weldin, Weldin Construction; Jamie Abordonado, ESGR executive director; Alaska Air National Guard Command Chief Master Sergeant Dennis Hogan; Geoffrey Lundfelt, senior vice president, Alaska USA Federal Credit Union; and Eric Lind, manager of military operations, Alaska USA Federal Credit Union.



Family Support

Local Business Gives Back to Guard and Reserve Families

By Major Guy Hayes, DMVA Public Affairs

CAMP DENALI, Alaska ... A local business owner and his employees donated \$7,003 to the Alaska Friends of the Guard and Reserve during a small ceremony in April.

Rich Owens, owner of Tastee-Freez, and his employees gathered at his store on Jewel Lake Road in Anchorage to make the check presentation to help support families and deployed members of the Guard and Reserves.

"It says a lot about the employees, and I'm proud of the fact that they choose to give back to the community," Owens said.

Owens, who also volunteers as the Alaska committee chairman for the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, believes in giving back to others in every way he can and passes that attitude on to everyone he meets. His generosity and the generosity of his employees make it easier to help families who need it most.

"Part of the money donated goes toward family program events and care packages for deployed members," said Master Sergeant Jason Johnson, Alaska National Guard Family Programs noncommissioned

officer. "We also use this money for families in need, so this money goes to directly support our troops."

According to Johnson, care packages for deployed servicemen come in from various organizations, but they need donations to help pay for the postage to send the packages overseas.

"We wouldn't be able to mail packages if it wasn't for donations from people like Rich Owens and his employees," Johnson said. "The program wouldn't happen without organizations like Tastee-Freez."

The donated money was collected from tips and profits made by selling store merchandise throughout the previous 16 months.

"All the profit made from selling T-shirts, sweatshirts and other merchandise is donated, in addition to the tips the employees make," Owens said. "It's our way of giving back to all the brave men and women, and their families, who put their lives on the line everyday to defend the freedoms we all enjoy."

The employees at Tastee-Freez have been giving the tips they've collected, in a tip jar near the register, back to the community since 1994. However, since



Donations. Linwood Stowe, an employee of Tastee-Freez, stands behind the register and tip jar used to donate money to Alaska National Guard and Reserve families. Employees of Tastee-Freez have been donating their tips since 1994. Photo: Major Guy Hayes, DMVA Public Affairs



Tastee-Freez Check. Alaska National Guardsmen and Tastee-Freez employees gather around Rich Owens, center, proudly displaying the \$7,003 check presented to the Alaska Friends of the Guard and Reserve during a small ceremony in April. The donated money was collected from employee tips and profits made by selling store merchandise throughout the previous 16 months. Photo: Technical Sergeant Shannon Oleson, 176th Wing Public Affairs

Sept. 11, 2001, tips and profits made from merchandise have gone straight to support Alaska Guardsmen and Reservists.

"I enjoy working with the Guard and Reserve. It means a lot to me," Owens said. "It's an honor to work with them, and I'll continue to support all the great things they do."

In appreciation of their continued support, Johnson presented Owens and his Tastee-Freez employees with a plaque expressing gratitude of the Alaska National Guard Family Programs for their generosity over the years.

"It's great to see kids giving back to the community," said Brigadier General Sharon Dieffenderfer, chief of joint staff for the Alaska National Guard. "These types of donations go to supporting our youngest enlisted families, so we really appreciate all the employees at Tastee-Freez for their selfless act of giving. Our families and deployed Guardsmen truly appreciate their support and are thankful for this donation." ■



Who We Are...

How do you recognize and celebrate Independence Day?

**Staff Sergeant
Al Wiggins**

State Aviation Office
Flight Operations NCO



"I celebrate Independence Day by playing a game of basketball with my friends and then getting together with my family to watch the fireworks."

**Specialist
Heidi Spillman**

State Aviation Office
Flight Operations Specialist



"My family and I dress up in red, white and blue and go downtown to watch the parade and fireworks."

**Chief Master Sergeant
Beverly Robotkay**

Alaska Air National Guard
Joint Forces Headquarters



"If we are in town, we watch the Fourth of July parade and the fireworks. If not, then we are camping with friends. But either way, it always involves a barbecue of some kind with red, white and blue accents."

**Major
Gregory Brown**

176th Wing Finance
Comptroller



"I spend the whole weekend at a baseball field watching America's pastime sport. My son plays in the American Legion baseball tournament."

Sam Walton

Department of Homeland Security
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Robert Gawrys JFHQ-AK (Army)
Margaret Lane Med Det

Captain

Stephen M. Ludwig 211th RQS
James D. Campbell 249th AS
Chad Ausel 761st MP
David Moss 49th MDB

First Lieutenant

Aaron C. Bunn 176th STF

Ryan N. McGrail 249th AS
Raymond Lowdermilk JFHQ-AK (Army)
Jeremiah J. Johnson 176th STF
Christopher D. Perham 176th ACS
Zachary Miller 207th AVN
Allen Hulse 103rd CST
Aaron J. Hunter 212th RQS
Ronald Snyder 143rd ABN

Second Lieutenant

Vanessa L. Ortiz 176th WG
Fadin S. Thornburg 144th AS
Stacey M. Rother 144th AS
George B. Kale II 210th RQS
Matthew A. Haug 176th STF
Joshua C. Lester 210th RQS

Chief Warrant Officer Four

Scott Frickson 297th BFSB

Chief Master Sergeant

Kevin B. Martin 211th RQS

Command Sergeant Major

Clinton Brown 297th CAV

First Sergeant

Michael Grunst 297th R&S
James Magsayo 207th AVN

Master Sergeant

Heather A. Paxson 176th MDG
Ariel O. Martin 176th WG
Challaine D. Moore 176th WG
Shawn M. Morrissey 168th ARW
Eric A. Warner 213th SWS
Rhame Grubbs 297th MP
William Crowley 297th R&S
David Searles 761st MP
Ronald Hall JFHQ-AK (Army)
Stephen Blair 143rd ABN

Technical Sergeant

Robert W. Simpson 176th LRS
Lakiesha N. Law 176th LRS
Ben E. Breije 176th SFS
David M. Haupt 176th SFS
Matthew C. Nemeth 249th AS
Scott J. Bartolo 176th CES
Christopher M. Harding 212th RQS
Leslie K. Howard 176th MOF
Joshua C. Vandenbrink 212th RQS
Elijah J. Keib 176th CES
Steve W. Monday 176th LRS
David M. Reed 176th LRS
Michael C. Cooper 176th LRS
Melissa I. Woolley 176th LRS
Calvin D. Bradley 176th LRS
Jennifer R. Barto 213th SWS
Joseph W. Brunsvold 213th SWS
Nicolas R. Blace 213th SWS
Thomas G. Hall 213th SWS

Staff Sergeant

Laura M. Segovia 176th MDG
Logan E. Newby 176th LRS
Lucy M. Orozco 176th MOF
Candice M. Parsons 144th AS
Daniel L. Roberts 176th MXS
Blassi K. Shoogukwruk 176th AMXS
Amanda C. Galles 176th LRS
Tiffany A. Hutchison 144th AS
Daniel D. Sharp 176th LRS
Dwight C. Madero 176th MXS
Nancy A. Goldberger 176th WG
Lacie P. Marsden 168th OSF
Joyce R. Scott 168th MOF
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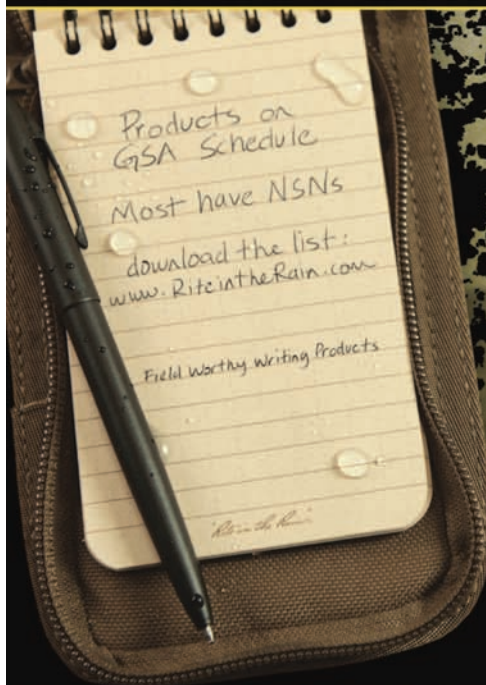


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RETIREMENTS

MSgt David Brown 176th CES
 TSgt Robert Cowan 176th LRS
 Maj Roger Le Blanc JFHQ-AK (Air)
 MSgt Arthur Gow 176th ACS
 TSgt Robin Knudsen 176th LRS
 MSgt Ronald Brooker 144th AS
 TSgt Todd Bowey 176th CES
 SMSgt Boos N. Peterson 168th MXS
 MSgt James P. Rankin Jr 168th LRS
 Lt Col William Luce JFHQ-AK (Army)
 SFC Andrew Swanston 297th MP
 SFC James Morris 207th AVN
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Darick James Butman
Matthew P. Wheeler
Michael J. Towns
Michael James Hecker
Jeffrey Albert Sison
William Jack Vera
Amy Marie Yuill
Steven David Stroman-Wahl
Spencer Colby Doyle
Tawndy Nichole Doyle
Quinn Alexander Williamson

168th Air Refueling Wing

Ashley Berin Spencer
Megan lee Schreder
Joshua Lee Thompson
Catelyn Amanda Neason
Nicholas Ryan Gipson
Matthew T. Sutton
William John Mallula
Andrew James Klaetsch
Heather Lee Lamoureux
Kimber Elena Sandback
Hilary Ann Marie Mahlen
Frank Clayton Crandon

297th Military Police Co.

Caleb Chance Cain
Julia Erin Hershelman
Benson Alexander Cogbill
Cody Benjamin Staley
James Frederick Zuelow Jr.
Gary Lynn McCarty
Christian Arnaldo Herrera
Richard Joseph Ross
Desiree Marie Henrich
Evan Andrew Smith
Dylan Murray Tallant
Emmanuel Nino Frigi Aurigue

Ilaisaane Okanani Toetuu
Nicholas Steele Waterhouse
Darrin Ray Dunn

297th Reconnaissance and Surveillance

Aaron Wade Needham
William Vance Gaddis
Harold Isaac Hernandez
Hans C. Ruehr
Fred Leo Math Ulroan
Michael Alan Eldred
Thomas Frederick Alexander
Francis Anthony Azzarella
Richard George Fre Mitchell
Levi Daniel Moffitt

207th Aviation

Kevin Gene Clark Jr.
Michael Terrence Williams
Molly Marie Reque
Sathiane Sikeo
Azriel Juagin Estrada
Shane Lee Carter
James Stewart Smith
Nicholas Michael Forbes
Thomas Faiupu Foilefutu
Jaime Kristin Kunde
Paul Cuabo Miller Jr.
Ryan Charl Swart
Kayla Marie Polston
Zachary Michael Adams
Alayna Nicole Taggart
Joshua James Dennis

207th Brigade Support Co.

Williams Kimberly J. Travis
Hope Marie Atkinson

Rodney Roy Schulte
Robert Bunch Smith
Jamear Donsai Watkins
Krystal Ann Michael
Anthony James Hartman
Joy Ruth Petway
Duncan James Zachgo

297th Cavalry

Michael Oscar Ervin
Nicholas Allen Titus
Rodriguez Daniel Rosado
Matthew Newman McBride
Lathaniel Hunter Ulofoshio

297th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade

Kurt Patrick Leffler II
Anthony Allen Armpriest
James Vance Siedenburgh
Michael Brandon Nail
Britian Dakota Totemoff
Morris Raymond Moya
Adrianne Joy Seus
Todd Anthony Johnson
Jason Alexander Johnson

761st Military Police Bn.

Matthew James Jendrusina
Jonathan Ed Shivel
Anthony Thingvall
Cody Allen Basham

103rd Civil Support Team

Joseph Daniel Radke

297th Signal Co.

Sai Sipharith

Daen John Musickslater
Robert Gregory Gordon

Alaska Army National Guard Medical Det.

Diane Nunley Hungerford

Alaska Army National Guard Joint Forces Headquarters

Missy Diaz

207th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade

Jeffrey Vance Johnson
Bryan John Kruse
Gail Kim Leavens
Curtis John Parker
Amber Louise Watkins
Anthony Frank Crawford
Kekoa Kenal Maclovesramirez
Samantha Alexandraflo Moses

49th Space Bn.

Bradley Stuart Moule

1/143th Infantry Airborne Bn.

Daniel Lee Albert Jones
Ryan Tyler Brown
Phillip Richard Corre
Randell Fred Andrew
Wayne Christopher Bollig

49th Personnel Det.

Destyne Estefania Dimascio

134th Public Affairs Det.

Balinda Marie Oneal

Warriors Training Schedule

Here are the inactive training dates for most Alaska Army *and* Air National Guard units. All dates are subject to change.

	August	September	October
Alaska National Guard			
Joint Forces Headquarters – Alaska (Air)	14-15	18-19	2-3
Joint Forces Headquarters – Alaska (Army)	7-8	25-26	16-17
Alaska Army National Guard			
297th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade	July 31-Aug 1	24-26	15-17
38th Troop Command	July 31-Aug 1	25-26	15-17
Alaska Air National Guard			
168th Air Refueling Wing	14-15	18-19	2-3
176th Wing	14-15	18-19	2-3
Alaska State Defense Force			
Headquarters	14-15	11-12	9-10

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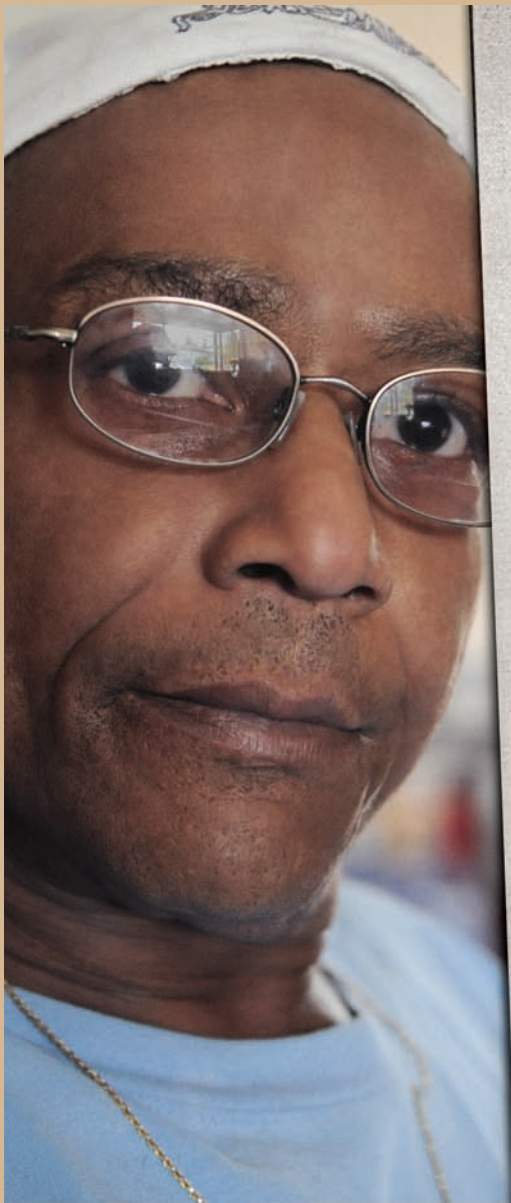
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